

REMARKS

The Office action of September 14, 2004, has been carefully considered.

The title has been amended as suggested in the Office action, and the reference to the prior application has been updated to note the patent number.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, on the basis that it is unclear as to the location of the recess. The Office action states that the specification only discloses a recess 20 at the four corners of the microphone.

Claim 2 has now been canceled and rewritten as new Claim 8, in which the condenser microphone additionally comprises at least one corner recess including means for making an electrical connection to the microphone.

As this is the arrangement clearly described in the specification, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as anticipated by the admitted prior art.

The Office action alleges that the admitted prior art teaches a condenser microphone including a substrate, a back plate having a stationary back electrode secured to the substrate, a spacer mounted on the back plate, a diaphragm electrode on the spacer and a frame having a sound collecting hole.

Claim 1 has now been amended to better define the invention, reciting that the spacer is securely mounted on the back plate, the diaphragm electrode is secured to an upper surface of the spacer, and the frame is securely mounted on the diaphragm electrode. This arrangement of elements makes possible the production of a case free microphone, as is now recited in Claim 11.

According to the claimed invention, the microphone is formed by securing the substrate and the spacer to the back plate, the diaphragm electrode to the spacer, and the frame to the diaphragm electrode. To the contrary, according to the prior art arrangement discussed on page 1 of the specification and shown in Figure 5, the elements must each be placed into a case, followed by the bending of case bottom portion 1a to secure the elements of the microphone within the case. This manufacturing method increases manufacturing costs.

Thus, the structure of the claimed invention in which the various elements are secured to each other, rather than retained in a case, is clearly different from that of the admitted prior art, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

New Claims 9 and 10 recite elements of the invention shown in Figures 3 and 4 and discussed in the specification.

The allowability of Claim 2 over the art has been noted.

Submitted herewith are copies of Office Actions received from the Korean and Chinese Patent Offices with respect to corresponding applications, together with translations of these Office Actions into English, copies of references cited with English abstracts, and a Form PTO-1449. The fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement after first action is also enclosed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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